

/5 December, 2006]

RAJYA SASHA

Shortage of coins

1414, SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the people have been experiencing the problem of shortage of coins all over the country,

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government have received any complaints of melting of coins by some unscrupulous elements for their personal gains; and

(d) if so, what steps Government have initiated to make sufficient supplies of the coins as well as to punish those found melting the coins?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No shortage of coins have been reported from any part of the country Reserve Bank of India is maintaining adequate supply of coins of all denominations. Law enforcement agencies are taking appropriate action against persons found involved in melting of coins

Non-merit subsidies

1415. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the extent of non-merit subsidies provided by Government in the last three years and the major heads under which they are given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Details of subsidies provided by the Government as per the Budget is as below: